

I appreciate President Bush's desire to sign a comprehensive energy bill into law, and I support his efforts to do so. I hope that Congress will put aside its parochial interests and send the President legislation that he will sign into law. Our national energy situation is not a partisan issue, and I hope that both parties can come together to do the right thing for America.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. DANIEL  
MCCLURE

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**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Daniel McClure of Bayfield, Colorado, on being awarded the 2004 Lloyd Gaskill Award. The award was named after the legendary football coach at Limon High School, and is annually given to an individual who volunteers to support Colorado high school athletics in other ways than coaching. This is the second year in a row that a resident of Bayfield, Colorado has been a recipient of the award, and is a well-deserved testament to Daniel's work with the youth in his community.

For over twenty years Daniel has selflessly dedicated his efforts to Colorado student athletes, helping them to compete and reach their highest potential. Once a week, Daniel visits both Bayfield and Ignacio High Schools to evaluate and treat student athletes at no cost to the schools or district. In addition to treating the student athletes, Daniel also attends each of the schools home and away games.

Dr. McClure has also contributed his time and skill beyond the high school level. He has had the opportunity to work with athletes at the United States Training Center, and at Olympic trial events, the Outdoor National Championships, the World Diving Championships and the FINA Cup International. He has also served as the sports chiropractor for the United States Olympic diving team in Barcelona, Spain in 1992, and again in Atlanta, Georgia in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and achievements of Dr. Daniel McClure before this body of Congress and this nation. His dedication to high school student athletes in his community and athletes representing our great country at the highest level is truly commendable. I sincerely thank Daniel for his service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDGAR JOHN  
NIEMANN

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart after learning that a great citizen and a dear friend of mine, Edger John Niemann, passed away at the age of eighty-three. He was a resident of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, and as his community and family mourn his passing, I believe it appropriate to recognize the life of Edger John Niemann before this body of Congress and this nation.

Edger was born on May 28, 1920 in Cook, Nebraska to Louis and Ella Niemann. He graduated from Cook High School and then went off to earn a Bachelors of Science degree in mathematics from Doane College in Crete, Nebraska. He joined the Navy in 1943 and earned his wings in Florida. At the conclusion of the war, Edger decided to pursue his passion and become a florist. Shortly after, he married Naomi Fenske in 1947, and they moved to Glenwood Springs in 1952.

Once there he and his wife purchased a floral business, eventually naming it Niemann's Gardens. Together they ran their business for forty years developing a love for flowers, but more importantly a love for their community. For fifty-two years, Edger served on numerous boards and committees striving to make his community a better place. Edger served his local school district and was a member of the Re-1 school board for fourteen years. He also served his local church, the Glenwood Church of Christ, as an elder. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club, the West Glenwood Sewer Board, and the Oasis Creek Water Board. On a personal note, Edger was a good friend of mine and he was one of the most caring, loving and hard-working people I have ever known.

Mr. Speaker, Edger Niemann will be sorely missed, and although we grieve over the loss of this incredible individual, we take comfort in the lives he has touched and the legacy he leaves behind. My thoughts go out to his wife Naomi, son Scott, daughter Holly and the rest of his family during this difficult time of bereavement. I am honored to pay tribute to his life and memory today.

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THE GASOLINE PRICE REDUCTION  
ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4545, the so-called "Gasoline Price Reduction Act of 2004."

My opposition is based both on grounds of the bill's content and the process by which it has been considered. I don't believe this bill is good policy, nor do I think it should have been brought up in a way that severely limited debate and completely eliminated the opportunity for the House to even consider any amendments.

The bill's title—gasoline price reduction—is more of a slogan than an accurate description of the measure. And like any good advertising slogan, it has a certain appeal. But it is not an example of truth in advertising.

I do believe that the bill's authors had the right goals in mind when drafting this bill. But reducing the "proliferation" of boutique fuels won't affect today's high gas prices. According to EPA, clean air protections add, at most, a nickel to the price of a gallon of gasoline. There are many other factors that can affect supply and price, such as merger activity, refinery shutdowns, and pipeline capacity. Besides, gas prices have risen across the nation, not just in states with cleaner fuel requirements.

The bill we are considering today would amend the Clean Air Act by allowing the EPA and the Department of Energy to grant waivers to states, if there is a fuel shortage, to use fuel or fuel additives, which might contribute to air pollution. The bill would give the EPA Administrator authority to waive cleaner-burning gasoline or diesel requirements indefinitely if there is a "significant fuel supply disruption," a term that the bill does not define.

I am concerned that this bill would give EPA limitless authority to streamline current regulations. In addition, since the bill calls for the EPA Administrator merely to deem a waiver "necessary," I am concerned that EPA's decision might not be subject to judicial review, or that any review would be very limited.

Finally, this bill appears to put considerations of price before those of health. It contains no obligation to mitigate or make up for the excess air pollution that may occur over the waiver period.

I understand that the more than 100 different fuel blends across the country have periodically resulted in regional price spikes, which is something we should try to address. A leading voice on energy in the other body has pressed for action from the Administration using legal authorities that the President already has. He has called first for an in-depth study to analyze the impact that federal, state, and local boutique fuels programs have on our nation's gasoline marketplace and to come up with specific recommendations for action.

I think the House should be considering mandating such a study—not passing legislation that won't address gas prices and that gives EPA unlimited authority that could be used to weaken important clean air protections. But because no amendments are permitted, that proposal cannot even be considered in connection with this bill. So, I cannot support it.